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While Greatest Activity Is Westward, Houses Are Going Up in Every Direction.

FEW VACANT LOTS ON GRACE

The heavy rains of last week materially retarded building operations and probably prevented the finishing up of some houses that were booked for completion the past week. However, it may be said that there is practically no cessation in the building boom. Builders are being hurried up on all contracts, and new deals are being made daily for the erection of residences both in the city proper and in the suburbs. Builders and contractors are beginning to complain somewhat of the scarcity of good labor that is much needed. The architects are all busy drawing plans for new houses, some of them being fine residences that are to go up on fashionable avenues.

And Yet More Houses World.

And Yet More Houses Wanted.

The active opening of the rental season and the casting up of accounts the arrangement of lists, etc., show conclusively that the building boom did not come along a minute too soon. There is demand for every new house that has been erected and for all that are in the course of construction.

Indeed there is encouragement for investors and builders to go eight along with the good work of putting more houses on the vacant lots within the city and out in the suburbs.

Work is progressing very satisfactorily on the Hanover Apartment, corner of Adams and Franklin Streets, formerly known as the Pace house. Mr. Chesterman is sparing neither money nor ingenuity to make it one of the handsomest and most convenient apartment houses in the South.

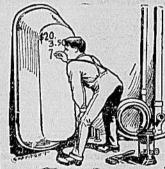
The Boom is General.

While the building boom is more noticeable in the western section of the city than anywhere else, it is not confined to that section by a great deal. The sound of the hammer and the saw and the trowel may be heard from Fulton to the Boulevard, houses are going up as if by magic, and it now looks as if the time is near at hand when there will not be a vacant lot on that thoroughfare. Building operations continue in all of the suburbs, and are particularly noticeable in Brookland Park, Highland Park and Ginter Park.

Mr. George D. Priddy, one of the leading contractors of the city, was button-holed yesterday, and in reply to questions, said:

"So far as my business is concerned there is no panic. I have more buildings in construction than I have ever had at one time, and according to my judgment 1998 and 1999 will see no pause in building activity in Richmond. This is especially true of beautiful Lee District.

"Among the buildings which are already being erected by me, and those which I am soon to start, are three dwelling houses on Floyd Avenue and Cedar Street for Mr. John B. Gayle, one store and flat on West Broad Street for Mr. P. L. Graves, one flat building on Harrison Street for Mr. John B. Gayle, one store and stat on one



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